

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning on Page 9, Line 35, and ending on Page 9, Line 36, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Figure 4: Sequences of the chimaeric fibers Ad5 (SEQ ID NO: 16) Ad5/12 (SEQ ID NO: 17), Ad5/16 (SEQ ID NO: 18), Ad5/28 (SEQ ID NO: 19), and Ad5/40-L (SEQ ID NO: 20).

Please delete the paragraph beginning on Page 11, Line 30, and ending on Page 11, Line 36, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Figure 9: Sequences including the gene encoding adenovirus 16 fiber protein as published in Genbank (SEQ ID NO: 21) and sequence including a gene encoding a fiber from an adenovirus 16 variant as isolated in the present invention, wherein the sequences of the fiber protein are from the NdeI-site (SEQ ID NO: 22). Figure 9A nucleotide sequence comparison (SEQ ID NOS: 21 (upper strand) and 22 (lower strand)). Figure 9B amino-acid comparison (SEQ ID NOS: 23 (upper strand) and 24 (lower strand)).

Please delete the paragraph beginning on Page 33, Line 4, and ending on Page 33, Line 25, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Amplification of fiber sequences from adenovirus serotypes Amplification of fiber sequences from adenovirus serotypes

To enable amplification of the DNAs encoding fiber protein derived from alternative serotypes degenerate oligonucleotides were synthesized. For this purpose, first known DNA sequences encoding for fiber protein of alternative serotypes were aligned to identify conserved regions in both the tail region as well as the knob region of the fiber protein. From the alignment, which contained the nucleotide sequence of 19 different serotypes representing all 6 subgroups, (degenerate) oligonucleotides were synthesized (see Table I, SEQ ID NOS: 1-13). Also shown in table 3 is the combination of oligonucleotides used to amplify the DNA encoding fiber protein of a specific serotype. The amplification reaction (50 µl) contained 2 mM dNTPs, 25 pmol of each oligonucleotide, standard 1x PCR buffer, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, and 1 Unit Pwo heat stable polymerase (Boehringer Mannheim) per reaction. The cycler program contained 20 cycles, each consisting

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of 30 sec. 94 °C, 60 sec. 60-64 °C, and 120 sec. 72 °C. One-tenth of the PCR product was run on an agarose gel to demonstrate that a DNA fragment was amplified. Of each different template, two independent PCR reactions were performed.